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UNION SQUARE THEATRE—8—" Separation."
WALLACK'S THEATRE—2—" Lady Clare."
SD AVENUE THEATRE—2 and 8—" Bunch of Keys.."
STH AVENUE THEATRE—8—" Princessida"
14TH STREET THEATRE—2 and 8—Minstrels.

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NEW-YORK, FRIDAY, FEB. 22.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING.

Foreign,-The German press is seriously divided as to the propriety of Bismarck's action on the Lasker resolution. - Mr. Bradlaugh was again sicluded from Parliament. - The debate on Parnell's motion condemning the Government's course in Ireland was adjourned. === General Gordon has gone alone to visit El Mahdi. MM. Coppée and De Lesseps were elected to the French Academy.

CONGRESS .- In the Senato yesterday a bill was passed for the punishment of persons personating officers and employes of the United States, = The Senate debated further the bill to provide for the issue of circulation to National banks, - In the House the Agricultural Appropriation bill was reported. ____ The House passed the Military Academy Appropriation bill. - The House passed the Post Route bill with Senate amendment. In the House a communication was received from the President, transmitting a statement from | that is another good reason. the Secretary of State to the effect that the British States for use on the Greely Relief Expedition

CITY AND SUBURBAN .- The New-York Harvard Club ate its eighteenth annual dinner yesterday. The Arion Ball took place. - Final arrangements for the procession in honor of De Long and his companions were made. ___ J. P. Billups & Co. made an assignment. - Alumni of Lafayette College dined. - Rugg received many visitors | rather than spread out over five. at the Long Island City Jail. - A reception was given to the brothers Redmond at the Cooper Institute. = Goode, one of the assailants of Mr. Church, got twenty years' imprisonment. = Gold value of the legal-tender silver dollar (41212 grains), 86.41 cents. - Stocks generally were dull, but special activity in a few at higher prices affected the whole list; the closing was un-

settled and irregular. DOMESTIC .- Testimony regarding the Gay Head disaster was concluded yesterday. = A thousand coal miners in the Pittsburg district are on a strike. === The Bourbon two-thirds majority in the Virginia Legislature is broken by recent elections. - Later advices show the loss of life and property by Tuesday's cyclone to be enormous. Baltimore and Ohio contractors are surrendering their contracts. The Y. M. C. A. State convention met in Buffalo. = Many of the Leisenring victims had recently insured. verdict for the City of Pittsburg against Dr. Hos tetter for \$492,000 has been rendered.

THE WEATHER-TRIBUNE local observations in dicateclear or fair and warmer weather. Temperature yesterday: Highest, 37°; lowest, 21°; everage, 30°.

Four deacons in the Madison Avenue Congregational Church have arrayed themselves on the side of the pastor and five are against him. And so the fight goes on. There is good authority for saying that a house divided against itself cannot stand. It will be interesting to see how long a church can keep itself up under similar circumstances.

General Gordon is pushing his work in the African desert actively and bravely. Having restored order in Khartoum he has left that city in charge of Colonel Stuart, and is pushing westward to Kordofan to visit the False Prophet and learn the fate of Hicks Pasha. This looks like a rash performance; but Gordon is as shrewd as he is featless, and doubtless knows | ter of condolence to the legislative body of what he is about. Apparently the conquest of the Soudan is to be made by one man.

The bill which prohibits the making of further contracts for labor in the prisons of the State passed the Assembly yesterday. It had previously passed the Senate and now goes to the Governor. This Republican Legislature is determined if possible to solve the prison problem. It has certainly addressed itself the difficut task with ample zeal and earnestness. The Democratic Legislature last year posed as the special friend of "the workingman," but after spending sood deal of time over a bill which provided for the abolition of convict contract labor, finally killed it.

The suffering from the Ohio floods is becoming sharper as the waters subside. The extent of | dignified silence and not to give expression to | the damage is only now realized. Small towns and villages are in some cases literally ruined. and must be rebuilt from the beginning. The stores too, on which the country people are so dependent, are gone, and they do not know where to turn for supplies even when they have money. It is evident that it will take many

call upon public charity will continue. In some cases the farmers may not be able to get fairly on their feet for a year. It is a calamity which coming so early in the year.

Captain Pearse, of the Glaucus, admits that he saw and recognized the wreck of the City of Columbus when he passed down the Sound on the morning after the disaster. He says, however, that he looked through his glass and could see no sign of life on the wreck, and he supposed that the passengers and crew had all been saved or lost long before. It may very well be believed that Captain Pearse would not have passed the wreck had he known there were living beings upon it, but this explanation will not acquit bin. It was his duty to make certain of the absence of human life on the wreck; not to content himself with a look through his glass. At four miles distance he could not have been sure that the wreck was untenanted, and he ought to have gone near enough to leave no doubt on that point.

It is difficult to understand why the Senate Committee on Cities should have reported favorably the bill to give the Board of Estimate the sole authority to make contracts for cleaning the streets of this city. The contracts now have to be approved by that board. There is no necessity for any interference with the work of the Street Cleaning Department, unless it be to extend the contract system. Commissioner Coleman advertised at one time for proposals for carrying the street refuse to sea. If he had placed this work in the hands of the lowest responsible bidder the city would have saved \$200,000. But Tammany began legal proceedings and on a technicality defeated the execution of the contract. There is no reason, however, why the work should not be let out at contract now, and the city saved a large sum of money. The Assembly Investigating Committee ought to inquire into this matter.

THE DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL CONVEN-

TION. The Democratic party realizes two things thatthis is a Presidential year, and that it is not in a condition to undertake a Presidential campaign. It has no idea whom it is going to run, and the man who is said to be the first choice of the majority of Democrats is understood to be out of the race on his own motion. But lack of strong, available candidates is not the party's worst embarrassment. It is hopelessly split up into factions upon the tariff-the issue upon which the Presidential election is sure to turn. If Democracy knew it was going to place a popular, invulnerable ticket in the field it would not worry so much about the platform. Or if it was satisfied about the platform it might not worry so much about candidates. As it is, it worries both over its men and its principles and sighs as it thinks of the coming convention.

This being the situation, it can be readily understood why leading Democrats all over the country have been declaring in favor of a late convention. The Democratic National Convention of 1880 was held in June; so was that of 1876. But the Democratic National Committee that meets to-day to name the time and place for this year's convention is asked on all sides to make the time as late as August or September. The Sun yesterday expressed the opinion that a day not earlier than the 20th of August or later than the 10th of September should be selected. It will be strange if the National Committee does not give ear to this demand for a short canvass. It is certainly going to take until the 20th of August, and more likely until the 10th of September, for the Democracy to find out precisely where it stands on the tariff. That is one good reason why there should be a late convention. Besides, the Republican party is going to win again in November, as usual, and

Hancock have been invited to attend the meeting of the committee to-day. But if they are on hand they can confidently be counted upon to advise a late convention. They can tell why a Democratic candidate would prefer to have his experiences condensed into two months

BISMARCK'S REASON,

Bismarck's reason for returning the Lasker resolution reveals the pettiness of personal pique. His servile apologists in Berlin rashly assumed that his action was based on some high political principle. This is not the case. He does not object to the exchange of civilities between two national legislatures as an abnormal practice involving dangerous tendencies He does not resent the action of the House of Representatives as a meddlesome interference with the relations of political parties in Germany. He declares that he would have gratefully accepted the communication if the estimate formed by the House of Representatives of Herr Lasker's political services were supported by his own judgment. He does not agree with the House respecting "the object and effect of Herr Lasker's political activity." Consequently he will not ask the Emperor's permission to send a messenger to the Reichstag with the official copy of the resolution. He returns it to the State Department at Washington. His diplomatic phrases do not render this act any the less ill-mannered. The reproach of this discreditable episode so far rests entirely with him. The House of Representatives, on this account, should be careful to let him have a monopoly of the bad manners and infirmities of temper.

What Bismarck has done is to remind American legislators that if they deem it expedient to make the political career of any German leader the basis for international courtesies, they must reflect, not their own, but his ideas and prejudices. It is needless to add that his censorship over public opinion in the United States respecting German affairs cannot be recognized. The House of Representatives, in sending a letwhich Herr Lasker was a member, expressed its own views and left the Chancellor's opinion out of account. Bismarck arbitrarily returns the message because it does not embody his own critical estimate of Herr Lasker's character. He refuses to allow the Foreign Office to be made the agency for communicating compliments to a dead man which he considers undeserved. If the Reichstag can endure such an indignity as this, and has no means of redressing its grievances, its state of degradation as a self-respecting legislative body tends to excite commiseration. But the House of Representatives is not responsible for that degradation nor for the arrogant assumption of the Chancellor. It would have no power to force its sympathetic messages | great ability and force, his address being one upon the attention of the Reichstag, ever if it had the will. Its proper course is to maintain a feelings of resentment over the impertment manner in which its well-meant civilities have been received.

The man who sends a kind message to a neighbor's house where a death has suddenly occurred naturally expects a respectful reception at the door. The lackey in waiting tears mouths to put things straight in the Ohio Valley, and that until the spring opens, at least, the
as entirely too favorable, and returns the mesley.

service for thirty years and does not consider to emphasize his own conclusion that the wisest it proper to deliver it to the family. The symwill be felt long and far, and is the worse for pathetic friend may be astonished to find that so ill-mannered a servant should be employed in his neighbor's household. He cannot, however, discharge the servant who has ventured to take so great a liberty as to reject a neighborly message of condolence. What, then, is he to do? It will be more becoming for him to say nothing and to do nothing, than it will be to lose his temper and talk angrily about the insolence of his neighbor's servant. If his own servant, however, have any duties to perform in that neighbor's house, he has a right to demand civil treatment. Otherwise the families ought to have as little to do with each other as

possible. This fable teaches that the House of Representatives ought to resist the temptation to debate an incident that is discreditable only to Germany. At the same time the State Department ought to ascertain if its accredited agent at Berlin has been treated with discourtesy, and if this be the case, to resent the indignity with firmness and proper pride. But let the self-opinionated servant give account to those of his own household. The shame and reproach are his and his country's, if his malevolent pursuit of a political adversary beyond the grave betokens petty spite and puerile irritation.

THE BANK QUESTION. The prospect at Washington is that the Mc-Pherson bill may pass, but no other for the relief of the banks. Votes in the Senate indicate that there is no chance of the success of any measure allowing more circulation to be issued by banks than the par value of bonds deposited for security. As to the tax on circulation, which can no longer be justified on any ground whatever, unless the destruction of the National banking system is desirable, no effort to abolish it seems to be likely to succeed at

this session. Nevertheless it is a misrepresentation to say that the McPherson bill would be "utterly useless." No candid and intelligent person can say this of a measure that adds one-ninth to the circulation which can be issued months past. It is by no means certain that, were no change made in the law, a very great or rapid change would occur before another session of Congress. If the McPherson bill only serves to defer for a single year the mischiefs which a general abandonment of the National banking system would cause, it must be considered a useful measure. England that wages there are decidedly lower is every reason to believe that the McPherson bill would do more good than that.

It is cheap and shallow political tactics to deny such merits as this bill possesses, because it originates with a Democratic Senator. It is who comprehends either the usefulness or the needs of the banking system will claim that it is. But it is far better than no change at save business from disorder, because they cannot do all that they would, do not seem to us to be very wise in their generation.

HOW BIMETALLISM IS BLOCKED. It seems strange that the earnest advocates of pimetallism in this country, who were so impatient a few years ago to take the lead of all the world in a great monetary revolution, have managed to make themselves considered in all other countries the chief obstacles to a triumph of bimetallic views. As to the ablest of them, this impression is hardly just. For they have made earnest efforts of late to bring about a suspension of silver coinage, and, however responsible they may have been for the tinuance. But it is not strange if a different widely known, when the silver bill was passde, as its most zealous and powerful advocates, The impression that they were strong enough to secure its passage, but, since it has ceased to be of any service, have never been strong enough to secure a suspension of coinage, or even to get the subject fairly considered, would not naturally be encouraged by them or their friends. If they were really in earnest in urging a suspension of coinage, as they were in urging the Bland bill, foreigners do not see why they accomplish

nothing. Every day the evidence grows stronger that the attitude of the United States is now the principal obstacle to bimetallism in Europe. In an official letter recently sent to the Bimetallic Association of New-York, from the International Monetary Standard Association, dated at their rooms, 34 Leadenhall-st., London, E. C., January 28th, the great progress in England of opinions represented by the association is forcibly set forth, and it is shown that leading statesmen of both parties are ready to give the question fair consideration. The efforts of the association "to enlighten public opinion on the subject" are mentioned, and then the letter closes with these words: "But "the turning point in the movement is generally supposed here to be the suspension of legaltender silver coinage on your side." The association is not ignorant, of course, that the Americans who resist suspension of silver coinage profess to be zealous for bimetallic ideas. But, in the judgment of nearly all intelligent bimetallists in Europe, these same Americans are directly and chiefly responsible for preventing the remonetization of silver.

Necessarily the question must be asked, in England, France, and other countries, whether the Americans really care anything for the bimetallic principles which their course defeats. Or are they merely using bimetallism as a cover for an effort to work off silver, and silver mines and shares, at as good a price as possible? If a man has no comprehension of bimetallic ideas, and cares not a button whether his country gets into difficulty or not, so long as he can sell this year at a better price the stuff he has to sell, then one can understand why he should stick to a course which all the bimetallists of Europe pronounce hostile to their principles. But are the majority in Congress quite prepared to make that sort of reputation for themselves ?

WAGES AT HOME AND ABROAD,

The Brooklyn Revenue Reform Club has recently placed Protectionists under great obligations. It evinced a commendable spirit of fairness in inviting Mr. Kasson to present his side of the economic argument. This he did with of the clearest and most logical contributions to the tariff controversy with which this community has been favored in many years. The Club, to be sure, provided what it considered would be an effective antidote to the unwholesome tendencies of a Protection address. A four-page circular entitled "Free Trade Necessary to High Wages" was handed to every one attending the lecture. This tract was as striking an illustration of the Free-Trade method of

course is to reason from facts to laws, since economic theories are not of universal and permanent application. Inasmuch as the circular served this useful purpose in the ball, and the cause of industrial progress was greatly benefited by the publication of so masterly an address, it would be ungracious for us to quarrel with the Brooklyn Revenue Reform Club. Yet the following letter seems to require a brief response: To the Edutor of The Tribune.
Sin: Inclosed you have a truct which was scat-

tered among all who listened to Mr. Kasson on Wednesday evening. Please reply to the misstatement of facts regarding prices of labor here and in Europe or England. Mr. Porter has thoroughly refuted the assumption that foreign labor receives higher wages than our own operatives. In private argument I can only reach a small circle of acquaintances, whereas you can address the thinking millions who are going to elect a Protectionist President this year. (I wish it might be Mr. Blaine.) I go to your paper for instruction and am anxious to have others believe as I do.

New-York, Feb. 11, 1884. The tract in question aims to prove that Pro tection lowers wages, and that Free Trade raises them, not merely in purchasing power, but also in actual dollars and cents. This position is supported at the outset by theories from the books which, as Mr. Kasson justly observed, tell what ought to be the logical consequences of logical propositions, irrespective of the actual facts. Then follows an appeal to practical experience. Russia is singled out as maintaining the highest Protective Tariff in Europe. while wages are lower there than they are anywhere else in Europe. Wages in England are next declared to be "twice or three times as high as in any European country maintaining Protection." Finally, wages are stated to be higher in England than in the United States, "in some important industries employing over 700,000 persons."

Russia is a country with a population almost exclusively devoted to agriculture and recruited mainly from classes that were emancipated twenty years ago. Whatever its economic system might be, its labor would be the most ignorant and the cheapest in Europe. A country that is slowly emerging from mediaval conditions of semi-barbarism and slavery is not to upon bonds now on deposit. The surrender be compared with a highly enlightened of circulation has not been rapid for and prosperous Nation like England, where wages would inevitably be higher without reference to the tariff system. The comparison must be made between countries of the same grade of civilization; as, for example, between England and the United States, or between England and Germany. Now, Mr. Porter has proved in his series of letters on Industrial Within a year, it is to be hoped, a more rational than they are in the United States. It is not laters of the street; there was steady purchasing, view of the question may prevail; and there necessary to refer to the evidence in detail, since the only serious attempt made in the tract to controvert it is the empty generalization about "some important industries employing over 700,000 persons." If wages were not decidedly higher here than there, the tide of imnot a sufficient or satisfactory measure; nobody | migration would not be setting in this direction vear after year.

Mr. Porter's testimony is not made up of high-sounding generalizations, but is specific all. The men who refuse to do what they can to in its details. He has proved, for example, that coal-miners in Pennsylvania earn in the course of a year wages 60 per cent in excess of those paid in England and Wales. He has made a minute comparison between the wages of American and English operatives in twenty departments of the woollen trade, the surplus in favor of the former ranging from \$2 to \$5 93 a week. He has shown that a cup-maker in English potteries earns \$9 92 and an ovenman \$6 86 a miles, and they come over at night, in Indian week, whereas the wages at Trenton for the same classes of work are \$19 67 and \$18 10 re- | As wages in British Columbia are much lower than spectively; and that the total average wages in on the American side, and as it has been found thirteen branches of this industry are \$8 69 in England and \$18 50 in the United States. He has tabulated the wages of skilled workmen in the iron and steel trade at Sheffield, showing | Washington Territory, but considering the facilities We are not aware that George B. McClellan, beginning of that coinage, may claim with some that the maximum is \$14 50 a week, that few afforded this cannot be thought a large number, Government had presented the Alert to the United | Horatio Seymour, Samuel J. Tilden and General | reason that they are not to blame for its con- earn as much as \$12, and the average is between | and in fact it seems almost to cast doubt upon the \$6 and \$8; whereas in Massachusetts the maximpression prevails abroad. These men became | imum is \$28 87 and the average from \$15 to | border. \$20 for skilled labor, and \$10 for laborers. He has proved that an industrious nailer at Lye Waste cannot earn more than \$4 a week at his other things dangerous to the public? There are forge; that skilled workmen in the iron trade | plenty of places in this city where so-called toyat Leeds get \$6 25 a week and seldom exceed \$7 50; that a felter makes less than \$4, an engine-tender less than \$6 and a mason a little over \$6. These comparisons, which might be extended indefinitely, show the superiority of American wages.

But what are the facts about Germany ? Is it true that wages are "twice or three times as high" in England as they are there? That assertion was made in various Free-Trade journals last year and was nominally supported by tables showing the wages in various occupations. Unfortunately for the argument, THE TRIBUNE suc- that could happen, to have \$10,000,000 or ceeded in proving that the figures in question were 20 percent higher on the English side than | all for the credit of the Government, he can hardly they ought to have been, and that the German figures applied to wages in 1878, before the Protective Tariff went into effect. When the table was revised so as to be a true comparative exhibit of wages under Protection and Free Trade, an equality was established in many occupations, whereas the discrepancy in the remaining trades was not by any means as great as the present tract represents. The adoption of the Protective policy in the course of four years was followed by a remarkable increase in wages, and probably at the close of a decade labor will command a better price in the Fatherland than in Free-Trade England. As for Americans, the practical question for them to settle, now as in the past, is that of labor between the United States and all Europe. Labor here must not be reduced to a level with the impoverishment of European labor, whether in Free-Trade or in Protection countries.

OCCULTISM IN ENGLAND.

A London dispatch recently stated that a young Englishman of good family, the son of a distinguished statesman, has become a convert to Buddhism, and has started for Simla to enter upon a novitiate of seven years. It is perfectly apparent that the reporter has here obtained a very imperfect and confused idea of the facts. The connection of a novitiate of seven years with conversion to Buddhism (that is to say, exoteric Buddhism) is absurd. No particular preparation has ever been required for joining that religion. In the time of Gotama all that was necessary for the neophyte was to hear the doctrine preached, and then to say, "I take my refuge in the law!" After Buddha's death his Order proceeded to pervert his teachings. He had expressly prohibited worship of his person, but the Order almost immediately made a dead letter of this command, and in a short time the applicant for Brahmacarya, or spiritual discipleship, was required to subscribe to a threefold creed, as follows: I take my refuge in Buddha; I take my refuge in the Law ; I take my refuge in the Order." Buddha said, "Walk in the paths," and that was all. The Order has built up an elaborate ritualism.

But the true meaning of the London dispatch can be deciphered without any difficulty. There can be no doubt that the young Englishman spoken of has really resolved to devote himself, not to Buddhism, but to Occultism, and that the seven years' novitiate refers to the term of probation he will have to pass as pupil, or chela, to one of the East Indian or Thibetan Mahatmas, or Masters, or Adepts, as they are called in Europe. A great deal of mystery surrounds these personages, and though Mr. Sinnett

sage with the ourt remark that he has been in after his address, that tract would have tended the fog which hangs over them, there have doubt their very existence. This sceptioism grows out of the magnitude of the claims put forward in their behalf. Thus it is asserted by Mr. Sinnett and others that the Adepts have, by profound study of nature through methods of psychological training unknown to the West, acquired a scientific knowledge which places at their command natural forces the very existence and nature of which the Occident has yet to discover. It is asserted that the same profound study of natural laws has enabled the Adepts to solve the problem of the future life, and not only that, but to pierce the events of the Cosmos, and to acquire positive information concerning Man's Whence and Whither.

These claims are advanced in the most decided manner, not indeed by the Adepts themselves, for they do not communicate directly with the world, but by their chelas or pupils, of whom there are hundreds in India. Those who have read "Zanoni" know something of the kind of beings the Adepts are represented to be. The remarkable fact, however, is that they should find a disciple in nineteenth-century England. The probationary stage, moreover, is not certainly the avenue to Adeptship. The tests to be undergone are said to be so severe that very few can sustain them, while a natural aptitude for the work must co-operate with the submission of the Will. Already a few Europeans have joined the mystic band, but it is declared that the Western intellect is very rarely fitted for the discipline and training demanded, and especially for the complete self-renunciation and effacement indispensable. Whoever goes in for Adeptship moreover must go in for life, for there is no conditional admission. This is a pity, because it deprives the world of the information which might be derived from the experience of the neophytes who fail to win the goal.

The late destructive hurricanes or tornadoes in the Mississippi Valley appear to have been accompanied by all the ghastly and terrifying phenomena which are associated with these disturbances. A dazzling red sky at midnight; black clouds appearing to be lighted by fire from within; hall stones as large as walnuts; furious eccentricies of the wind, are all spoken of. As usual the storm cut a swathe, narrow and irregular, and as usual everything struck by it went down, trees and houses alike. The tremendous energy of the wind in these storms seems to justify the suggestion that there may be some other force at work, and many facts poin to electricity as the probable agent. No disoveries regarding these tornadoes, however, are likely to show how they can be avoided.

Mr. Morrison's boom for the Presidency Las not een heard from of late. His friends fear the worst

The continuous strength of the market for good securities was the noteworthy feature in the Exchange on Tuesday and yesterday. The buying was no longer confined, as for some months it generally has been in times of advance, to the specuand a good deal of it, by solid investors. The tone of opinion with regard to the future of the great corporations has changed materially within the past month. Whatever the immediate course of the market may be, there is now a growing confidence in the permanent value of the properties which the better class of securities represents.

During the debate upon the Roosevelt bill one of the Democratic Aldermen opposed it on the ground that the Board of Aldermen was "founded by Thomas Jefferson." This would seem to be a good time to quote for Jefferson's benefit, de mortais nil

A Washington Territory correspondent of The San Francisco Chronicle alleges that the smuggling of Chinamen from British Columbia has attamed the proportions of a regular business there. He says that they come from Victoria, and are smuggled across the Sound to Dangeness, Point Discovery, or Point Wilson. The distance is about thirty-five canoes, accompanied by white guides or pilots. practically impossible to watch the coast line, un less a large force is placed there, this smuggling bids fair to continue. It is estimated that some eight hundred Chines have already been smuggled into hypothesis that the Chinese are eager to cross the

The law interferes to regulate the sale of poisons Why can it not be employed to regulate the sale of pistols, but which are quite capable of killing, any one, are sold at prices which bring them within the reach of the boy of the period, and he certainly ought not to be trusted with deadly weapons. There are serious accidents with these pistols on every public holiday, but no attempt has yet been made to restrict their promiseuous sale. Is it not time something was done about this?

Gold began to go abroad vesterday, but the amount was not large, and the money market was in no way disturbed. Nevertheless, one is somewhat perplexed to account for the observation of a leading banker that "it would be the best thing \$20,000,000 in gold sent abroad." If one cares at rejoice to see gold drawn out of the Treasury in such amount while silver accumulates.

The House of Commons seems to be deteriorating in its sensitiveness to bad language, if we may judge from the fact that Mr. Healy was not called to order when he referred to Lord Rossmore as " a bigoted, malevolent young pup." The only difference between this kind of thing and a Democratic convention is that in the latter Mr. Healy's soothng remark would have been the signal for a flight of spittoons, whereas the Commons appear to have taken the matter apathetically.

A lecturer has stated that the Pacific coast is so lefenceless as to be at the mercy of even a small Power like Chill. That is nothing. The same may be said of the Atlantic coast. Chili has tronclads superior to anything in our navy, and the latter could not hope to bar her way successfully if she proposed to enter the harbor of New-York in hostile guise. Yet Congress does not appear to think it worth while to make any appropriation for the improvement of the National coast defences.

PERSONAL.

"I made no false statements," said Wendell Phillips once to a critic of one of his speeches; "I simply rectified a fact that had no business to be a fact." "But," said the other, "your statement was misleading." "Did it mislead you?" was the retort; "well, it is necessary to mislead some people in order to guide them aright. Remember how Paddy had to drive his pig one way in order to make him go the other."

"At dinner in Cincinnati," writes a Cleveland Leider correspondent, "Matthew Arnold remarked that American women looked pale, unhappy and careworn. A lady at his side said: 'If you look about you, Mr. Arnold, you will see that the ladies here to day are as fair, care-free and happy as it is possible for people to be. The teacher of lucidity raised his eyeglass and, gazing critically, said in a surprised tone: 'Well, upon my soul, Mrs. Arnold is the only careworn one in the room.'" "The embarrassment of the late President Chad-

ourne's estate," says a writer in The Springfield Republican, "causes regret to his many friends, and shows that the reason which he gave for resigning the presidency of Williams College-the necessity for making more money-was the literal and full ground for that step. Some people could not under stand why a man in such a position of moral influence could want to leave it, but the fact that his estate, life insurance money and all, will fall about Roberts (Gwilym Cowlyd) of Llanrwst, N. Wales; Eng-\$40,000 short of meeting the liabilities explains the situation. The doctor was one of the most public spirited men in the country, and his losses were unexpected, and through no fault of his own. Honcef to the strict letter of every obligation, he assumed burdens which others created for him, and had his life been spared he would have cleared off all this burden; but his sudden death, taking him all this burden; but his sudden death, taking him

from the midst of plans for doing this, leaves his es-tate embarrassed. No one knew the exact condition of his affairs, and men did not appreciate the work which he was doing to retrieve them. The mana-gers of the estate will try to arrange with the credi-tors so that it will not be necessary to have it go through the insolvency court."

LONDON, Feb. 21.-Mr. Irving, who is an advanced Radical in politics, has been elected a mem-ber of the Reform Club.

TALKS ABOUT TOWN.

THE GROWTH OF THE PRODUCE EXCHANGE E. R. Livermore, ex-president of the Produce Exchange. • Yes, there has been a vast improvement in the manner of transacting business through commercial exchanges ta thirty years. The nucleus of the present Produce Exchange was an organization of about 200 grain and floar merchants—for we had a limited provision bus-ness then—who rented a small room at Broad and South sts. This was known as the Corn Exchange. We displayed our samples on window sills and benches and small tables, and as our member ship grew we enlarged our room. Finally, with 750 members, we found it necessary to have a building of our own, which is the one we now occupy and which we moved into in 1862, changing our organization to the Produce Exchange. Then our membership greet to 3,009 and we found we must have a larger building

DELEGATES BY CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS. Collector Robertson .- I am in favor of choosing delegates to the National Republican Convention by the Congressional District Conventions, instead of having them selected by subdivisions of the State Convention, for the reason that the atmosphere around the State Conventions is too often of such a character as to defeat the wishes of the Congressional Districts. By selecting them as I suggest you are more likely to get the exact seetiment of the voters in the district. I voted to override the upit rule in 1878, and started the idea of the Congres sional District Conventions in 1880 for choosing delegates

WATER WORKS EAST AND WEST.

Sidney W. Hopkins, president Council Bluf's Water Works.—The Aqueduct Commission might study to advantage the water supply of various Western cities. I venture to say that our new works just completed at Council Bluffs are the most perfect of their kind west of Chicago. The water is brought from the Missouri River and pumped by what is known as the Birkenbine system into three settling reservoirs on the bluffs over against the town. You know the color of Missouri water! A Hackensack brick red, or just the shade of one of your new fashloned Eastern sunsets. But after the sand that gives it this color has settled in the reservoirs it becomes as clear as filtered rain-water. With our present capacity we can furnish about five millions gallons a day, or over two hundred gallous per capita of the present population. When the water was first turned into the mains it was found to furnish a pressure through the hydrants sufficient to throw a two-inch stream 175 feet high. The Common Council are now considering the question of selling the city fire engines. The Quaker Bridge dam ! A gigantie scheme, unnecessary and iniquitous. If undertaken, in my opinion, it would soon become a reservoir of corrapton animal, vegetable and muululpal.

LOWERING THE TROTTING RECORD. William H. Edwards, president Clercland Trotting Asso-lation.—This will be a rousing season of trotting. There s more public interest than ever. The record will go down, I think, to 2:10, possibly to 2:07, or between 2:06 and 2.10 comewhere. What we want most is good, square retting and no feelishness. We are buttoning these down pretty close to that with the rules now in force.

BRIDGE ENGINEERING.

Samuel McElroy, civil engineer.—That the cables of the East River Bridge have very considerably lengthened to shown by the fact that the suspender bands have been slipped nearer the towers by several inches. This was done last fall. It indicates that there was some serious miscalculation as to the strain-bearing power of the cables. But Mr. Roebling has admitted over his own signature in a letter to General John Newton that there were many miscalculations in the Bridge estimates. . . . I was at the opening of the cantilever bridge at Niagara Falls It is a beautiful engineering structure, but not perfect for all that. It has settled, under test, six inches more than was anticipated.

THE FLOODS OF THE OHIO.

8. P. Case, of Cincinnati.-Until last year, no flood in Ohio has brought destitution to any great number of people. Since the great flood flity years ago, in 1832, owns have been built on low land all along the river, and a the great cities all the low land has been built over. Last year's floods brought terrible destitution to large numbers of people. This year sees the same thing ta greater array. It is simply awful to think of the houseess, homeless, hungry thousands out along that river to-

BIG LIFE INSURANCE POLICIES

D. F. Harbaugh, of Detroit, life insurance.—Life insur-ance has not been considered us having a good field of operation in Michigan, but in two years' experience there I have found it ripe for that business. We have large, clean towns, heavy lumbering interests, and many large fortunes have been made in various branches of rade. The tendency of things in the life insurance bustness is to seek for large risks and large premiums from men of wealth. The Equitable has been writing prelums as high as \$100,000 on a single life since January 1. Tas limit up to that time was \$50,000. Several such policies have been written at the New-York office.

MUSIC AND THE DRAMA.

MODJESKA.

Shakespeare's comedy of "Twelfth Night" will be acted at the Star Theatre on Saturday night, and Mme, Modjeska will appear as Viola. Her impersonation of this character has been seen in this city, and by some judges it was admired. "Nadjezda" is laid ashte for a while, in order to relieve the actress from the severe strain which it imposes upon her strength. If a considerable part of the revolting horror which now surcharges this drams were discarded from it the public also might be relieved-and the play might be a much better one. . is not obvious that anything is gained, in a dramatic sense, by the implication of a criminal and hideous selfsense, by the implantage of the prologue; and sarely sheriles, made by Natificida, in the prologue; and sarely there is no need of gore, at any point. Mine. Modloska's engagement is to last two weeks longer, after the present week is ended. McChilough will succeed her at the Star Theatre on March 10.

MUSICAL NOTES.

The manager of the Casino has arranged for the production of "Falka," now running in London. It will follow "The Merry War." M. Ovide Musin has been engaged by the

Apollo Club, of Chicago, to play at a concert in that city on February 25. The instrumental forces at the Casino concert next Sunday evening will be augmented by the addition of the 12th Regiment band. The solo per-

formers will be Miss Emma Juch, Mine. Teresa Carreno and Herr Fritz Giese. Mr. Albert J. Holden, organist of the Church of the Divine Paternity, will deliver a lecture pefore the Chapin Literary Association in the school-room of the church next Monday evening. He will discuss music as an educator, and will have the help of a vocal quartet in the illustrations.

Madame Minnie Hauk, who has been visiting he principal cities of Virginia and the Carolinas during the month, will give three operatic concerts early in March in Galveston. Afterward she will revisit Charles-lon, Atlanta and Richmond.

Miss Lena Little, who was heard with pleasure here last season in some of our best concerts, is vigorous ly pursuing her studies abroad. For six months she was Frankfort with Herr Stockhausen, deveting herself to the study of song singing and the cratoric. Recently she went to London, where she has been most favorably re-

Mr. Theodore Thomas will conduct his orchestra in a concert to be given by Miss Adele Marguines to-morrow evening, February 28, in Steinway Hall. The programme is an extremsly interesting one, as will ap-

pear:

1. Academic Overture
2. Concerto No. 4, in G. 19, 58 ... L. van Recthoven
2. Concerto No. 4, in G. 19, 58 ... L. van Recthoven
3. Scotch Rhapsody ... Horrow
4. Fiano Selos ... Horrow
5. "Au Lac de Wallenstandt," Frant Liss
6. Symphonic Poul ... Le Rouet Tomphale,
6. Symphonic Poul ... Le Rouet Tomphale,
6. Symphonic Poul ... Le Rouet Tomphale,
6. Fred Y Chopia

6. Concerto in E minor, Op. 11 Commission Fred F Co. The New-York Eisteddfod will meet in

Chickering Hall this afternoon and evening. Charles A. Dana will preside in the afternoon, and Henry Ward Beecher in the evening. There will be the usual copetitions in vocal and instrumental music tinetuding sight singing and composition), recitations, essay writing, poetical composition in Welsh and English and translation. The adjudicators will be: Essays, the Rev. D. Parker Morgan of this city and the Rev. Edward lish poetry, Oliver Wendeil Holmes; translations, the Rev. Dr. Llewelyn J. Evans of Cincinnati; recitations,